



2024 Regional Rural Convenings

Regional Office	Date(s)	Location(s)	Purpose/Focus
Region 1	Q4	VT or NH or ME	TBD
Region 2	June-August	Rural New Jersey	Host a South Jersey Nonprofit Empowerment Summit focused on organizing a one-day symposium for interfaith and secular nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and community groups. The symposium aims to provide education and resources to support rural interfaith communities, address service needs, and sustain business viability in rural communities. The summit will entail a plenary session and breakout workshops informed by the planning committee (including the New Jersey State Faith-Based Initiatives Office, five local rural faith-based/community-based organizations, SBA, IRS, and Census) and survey results managed by the NJ State faith-based network. The summit will take place in October 2024.
Region 3	May 17 & June 27	Pittsburgh, PA rural counties (May 17) and Harrisburg, PA (June 27)	Determine how living in rural and surrounding communities affects the human services experience of fathers, how it affects parenting and the providers who serve fathers and parents and determine the best ways to communicate with and involve fathers living in rural and surrounding communities.
Region 4	July-August	Georgia	Listening Sessions with LGBTQIA+ Individuals and Service Providers Living/Working in Georgia, Urban and Rural Communities. To gain a deeper understanding of the experiences of LGBTQIA+ individuals living in rural, urban, and surrounding communities, the listening sessions will also be conducted with LGBTQIA+ service providers. The intent of the Listening Sessions is to learn how ACF can improve services to be more inclusive and how best to be inclusive of our messaging.
Region 5	September	Adams County, Wisconsin	TBD
Region 6	August 20	Oklahoma City, OK	In conjunction with the HHS Region 6 Tribal Consultation, we will hold a Listening Session with Tribal, state, and federal leaders. The goal is to collect information to better understand the lived experience of Tribal members and rural Oklahomans leaving incarceration and behavioral health centers in Oklahoma's rural and Tribal communities, and to identify barriers to the comprehensive array of human services needed by persons returning from incarceration and behavioral health centers. This listening session will inform ACF's rural strategy and connect various

			federal HHS partners to provide coordinated services to rural citizens.
Region 6	August 23	Hugo, OK	In Hugo, we will hold a listening session to collect information from community members to better understand the lived experience of Tribal members and rural Oklahomans leaving incarceration and behavioral health centers in Oklahoma's rural and Tribal communities and to identify barriers to the comprehensive array of human services needed by persons returning from incarceration and behavioral health centers. This listening session will inform ACF's rural strategy and connect various federal HHS partners to provide coordinated services to rural citizens.
Region 7	August 22-23	The Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation (KS)	Collaborate with SAMHSA and HRSA to create a Tribal Needs Assessment by listening to Tribal Nations articulate their human services needs across various HHS programs during a Tribal Behavioral Health Summit. To recognize diversity and ensure equity under the overarching banner of Rurality; by highlighting the uniqueness of Tribal Nations not present in non-native rural communities, including missing and murdered indigenous people.
Region 8	July 8	Cheyenne, WY	Determine what ACF can do to remove barriers to individuals receiving mental health support as part of employment strategies. How can ACF be responsive to unique rural needs in employment strategies through policy, funding, and other flexible approaches? What is ACF "getting right" or conversely "getting wrong" in the way they approach rural service delivery?
Region 9	October 28-29	Fallon, NV	The Nevada Rural Communities Summit will convene community action, state, tribal, and federal partners to solicit meaningful community input, build new partnerships, and identify opportunities to address rural community need in Nevada. We will learn about how providers in rural Nevada are increasing community resilience.
Region 10	July 29 - August 9	Bethel, AK, Anchorage, AK, Fairbanks, AK and Blyn, WA	Learn from Tribal Tiwahe Initiative grantees and BIA partners about the successes, challenges, opportunities, and innovations that could be applied to ACF when working collaboratively with extremely rural communities. The three questions we hope to inform are: 1) how do we model a wraparound approach at the federal level? From a jurisdictional perspective, what support is needed from the federal government? How can we be more inclusive of the voice of jurisdictions at the federal level?